



**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

**Isiah Leggett**  
County Executive

**Uma Ahluwalia**  
Director

**COMMISSION ON JUVENILE JUSTICE**

**Meeting Minutes**

**June 18, 2013**

**CITIZEN MEMBERS PRESENT:** Carole Brown, Elaine Bullington, Margaret Currie, Chris Fogleman (Chair, Government and Community Relations), Jennifer Gauthier, Barbara Holtz, Mehul Madia, Gladstone Marcus, Perry Paylor, Carlean Ponder, Wendy Pulliam, Jasmine Shergill, and Mark Resner.

**AGENCY MEMBERS PRESENT:** Blaine Clarke, Francha Davis (Chair), Frank Duncan, Susan Farag, Amy Morantes, George Simms, Michael Subin, and Elijah Wheeler.

**ABSENT MEMBERS:**, Michael Citren, Timothy Hwang, Ashok Kapur, Risa Mainprize, Dana Pisanelli, Mary Siegfried, and Kathi Rhodes.

**STAFF LIAISON PRESENT:** Diane Lininger

**EMERITUS MEMBERS:** Dr. Lee Haller

**GUESTS:** Jose Saavedra, and Jennifer West.

**Commission on Juvenile Justice**

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**I. Announcements /Preliminary business**

- A. Prospective new commissioners were interviewed for the 5 available openings. The plan is they will be in place by the Fall.
- B. Letters were sent out from the County Executive's office requesting agencies to fill vacancies on the Commission.
- C. Chris Fogleman will update DHHS director at the June 24<sup>th</sup> quarterly meeting

**II. Old Business**

- A. The March, April and May 2013 minutes were approved.

**III. New Business**

- A. A motion for the nominations from the Nominating Committee for new Executive Board was approved. They will begin their duties in July. The new Executive Board is as follows:

- 1. Chair: Chris Fogleman
- 2. Vice Chair-Mehul
- 3. Secretary/Editor- Barbara Holtz
- 4. Co chairs Care, Custody - Carlean Ponder and Elijah Wheeler
- 5. Co chairs Government and Community Relations: Perry Paylor and Gladstone Marcus

**B. Annual Work Plan**

The Care Custody and Placement Committee will:

- work with the Collaboration Council and IMPACT Silver Spring to assess the needs in the White Oak area including: identifying the particular needs of children of immigrant parents;
- explore restorative justice intervention and prevention processes, programs, and best practices as they relate to current programs that serve high-need youth in Montgomery County.
- explore the possible effect of community re-entry programs to support young offenders in Montgomery County, working with County Council members interested in pursuing, strengthening such programs;
- develop new sources of mentors, tutors, and other resources for high-need youth in detention and other junctures along the "school-to-prison" pipeline;
- increase the committee's awareness of juvenile justice issues within the County Council and arrange a Commission meeting with Council members involved in juvenile justice matters.

The Government and Community Relations committee will:

- monitor report on and make recommendations regarding relevant proposed legislation,

- advocate for Commission budget recommendations;
- gather and report on relevant information obtained from community stakeholders;
- disseminate to community stakeholders relevant information obtained from other sources.

A motion was made and carried to approve Committee Work plans.

**C. Feedback regarding the annual meeting with the Juvenile Judges**

The format of questions and talking points seemed less fluid this year. It was apparent judges may not be aware of diversion options. It is possible they need more education. A question was posed as to whether the Committee of Government and Community Relations could do more to educate judges. Another proposal was made to possibly change the format for next year. An idea was offered that perhaps giving the judges hypothetical case facts as to how they might handle such a case might be informative. It was also proposed to reduce the number of questions so there is more time to discuss them. Another suggestion was to frame the evening as a time to educate the judges as well as ask questions. Additionally it was proposed that it might help to immediately process what was learned from the judges meeting rather than discussing it two months later after the Retreat. Perhaps the judges meeting could be moved to the fall. Another question was whether there should be an ad-hoc committee to create the format for the next judges' meeting. Perry, Blaine, Jennifer and Wendy offered to be part of that committee. A point was made that judges should hear Commission's concern about disproportionate minority contact.

**D. Feedback on the retreat**

A suggestion was made that it might be better if the note taking could be electronic instead of handwriting notes. That way it could be projected and more easily viewed. There was also a wish that more commission members attend. Members felt the time was valuable for creating work plans but that perhaps a different month would be better since May and June can be a busy time for people with families. A proposal was made to have the retreat in April so that there is more time to process the retreat and create the work plan for June. It was proposed to look at the calendar to consider possible dates for the retreat.

**IV. Committee Reports**

- A. The Care, Custody and Placement Committee is looking forward to executing the work plan
- B. The Government and Community Relations has decided to focus for the coming year on disseminating information by focusing on the Commission website which the public can access; and gathering information from stakeholders by thinking ahead of time about different types of speakers to present to the Commission.

**A Motion to Adjourn was approved at 9 p.m.**